

The Ohio Statesman

MANTREY & MILLER, Publishers.

W. W. MANTREY, Editor.

COLUMBUS, OHIO.

SUNDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1861.

Mason and Sidel Surrounded.

It appears from our telegraphic news this morning, that Messrs. MASON and SIDEL, the Envoys of the Confederate Government to England and France, have been surrounded upon the demand of the British Government. This information will startle the country, especially in view of the action of Congress on the first days of the session, in approving, by resolution, the capture of these Envoys, by Commodore WILKES, and the voting by that body to him and his officers, of gold medals for their patriotic gallantry in seizing and carrying them from the British Mail Steamer Trent, on which they were passengers. Our American politicians and statesmen who have been engaged since the seizure in demonstrating its propriety and the duty of the Government to hold on to them, will be taken all aback by this news, and will hardly know what to think or say about this act of the "powers that be."

The National Debt.

Next to the rebellion, the great national calamity which the people of the United States have got to face, is the enormous national debt. It is already large, and is increasing at the rate of two million dollars or more per day. It will continue to accumulate—how long nobody pretends to know.

Knowing, however, that a settlement must be made some day, let us see how we stand on the books. We take Republican authority—"The present fiscal year," says the New York Tribune, "will leave us with a debt of nearly or quite six hundred millions of dollars, for the payment of the interest on which forty million dollars will be required."

But in its estimate of our indebtedness, the Tribune, like most other calculators, leaves wholly out of view our State debts. At the close of the last year the debts of the States amounted to two hundred and sixty-five millions of dollars, without taking into account the debts of cities and counties. These absolute State debts must have increased greatly within the past year. Supposing their aggregate does not exceed three hundred millions, we shall have at the close of the current fiscal year, a public debt, national and State, of nine hundred millions of dollars.

The Tribune says that "the coming year will see the amount of our national indebtedness (\$600,000,000) doubled," making it twelve hundred millions of dollars, with an interest on the same of at least seventy millions of dollars. The State debts will also, at the same time, continue to increase, if not in the same ratio, still at an enormous rate. So that we are on the high road to national and State bankruptcy, whether we have the malignities to acknowledge it or not.

Supposing the war to be closed at the end of the next year, what then? The Tribune says, "we shall be obliged to maintain a large army and navy at an additional expense over past years of one hundred million dollars"—making the annual expense of the Federal Government two hundred millions of dollars, exclusive of the seventy millions of interest on the twelve hundred millions of national debt. Thus, the people will have to foot an annual expenditure of two hundred and seventy millions of dollars on the part of the Federal Government, and that, too, without diminishing the National Debt one cent.

How is this annual expenditure to be met? If the duties on imports should yield as large a revenue as it did before the war began, there will remain the sum of two hundred millions to be raised by modes of taxation heretofore unknown and unpracticed in this country. At the same time, the expenses of the State Government and the interest on their debts, to say nothing of paying the principal, must be provided for by heaping taxes on the people.

The truth may as well be told at once and right out as to smooth it over with honeyed words, in order to pacify a deceived and betrayed people. Under the present management of our national affairs, the annual expenses of the Government will not be met. There will remain each year an excess of unpaid expenditure, which will be added to that great reservoir, the original National Debt funded in stocks, bonds, etc., and bearing interest. Perhaps, many holders of Government securities who can afford it, as in England, will be content to forego the payment of interest annually, and let the Government indebtedness accumulate in their hands by means of compound interest. This will help maintain the credit of the Government and bankrupt the nation. But there are men who do not care how poor the people become, so long as Government contractors and ordnance get rich and keep rich.

Partisan Malignity.

The Ohio Statesman calls the swindlers who have been exposed by the investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, "pals of Cabinet officers." This is as unfair as it is false. Cabinet officers may have been deceived, but that a single member of the Cabinet has been a party to frauds and has had "pals" in the business of falsifying contracts, no honest and fair man for a moment believes.—Savannah Register.

We may differ with the Register as to the term pals. Mr. CUMMINGS, of the New York World, is not denied, in a special favorite of CAMEROON; MORAN is a brother-in-law of Secretary WELLES. Are they to be considered pals? Would these fat jobs have been given them had they not been relations or pals of these Cabinet officers? The Register knows these jobs were not given by contract to the lowest bidder, but were given on the specific grounds that they were Republican relations—or pals, if the Register likes the term better. To attempt to defend them is an outrage.

Death of Hon. S. C. Haven.

The Hon. Solomon C. Haven, of Buffalo, died on the 23rd inst. On the 14th he was stricken with paralysis of the throat and face, but the immediate cause of his death was disease of the heart. He was 61. Mr. Haven was the law partner of ex-President Fillmore from 1836 to 1847, when Mr. F. was elected Comptroller. In 1850 Mr. Haven was elected to Congress, and was re-elected in 1852 and in 1854. He held the front rank at the bar in Western New York, and his social relations Mr. Haven was a model man.

Mr. HAVEN ranked high in Congress as an able, practical statesman. He was universally regarded as one of the very best legislators in Congress.

The Legislature of Virginia has passed a law to prevent extortion in suits, which had been earlier at very high prices. A dollar a pound had been demanded for it in some instances. It is to be seized and placed in the hands of an agent, who is to sell it at fair prices.

The Heat Work of the Stone Fleet—The Ship Channels to Charleston.

The sixteen ships of the stone fleet which have gone to their final moorings on Charleston bar, and around which the heavy masses of sand are now settling, will eventually close all passage into or out of the original blockading city by that line. They will effectually block the port so far as the main ship channels are concerned, and will relieve the Federal fleet from duty in that direction.

But, as we showed some time ago, there are other channels that lead into Charleston harbor beside the one we have closed; and it is mostly by them, too, that the ships which have lately run the blockade made their entry and exit.

Of these, the principal one is Maffia's Channel, which is of quite recent discovery, but which is really in many respects the best entrance to Charleston. It skirts along close by the shore of Sullivan's Island, after following the line of which for some distance, it strikes sharply out into the open sea. It is more free from shoals, is of bolder cut, and of more direct passage than any of the other channels. The approach to the coast is easy, and the shoaling gradual. The ship channel we have just blocked up in 11½ miles from Charleston, while that of Maffia is only seven. The Coast Survey charts show that in 1855 the depth of water in this channel ranged from eleven feet at low water over slugs at high water, and could thus furnish passage to vessels of very heavy draught. To increase still further its depth and facility, the State authorities have for years employed a dredge, of great power, worked by steam, in removing the sand and mud from its bed. It can now probably give safe passage to any vessel at all. In this channel no bulk of the stone fleet has been sunk. Fortunately for us, however, if it is a good channel, it is also one which is very easily watched; and in fact, one of our blockaders, placed off Beach Inlet, near Sullivan's Island, can prevent any rebel ship from creeping into or out of Charleston by Maffia's Channel.

There are also several other channels leading into Charleston harbor, in which no part of the great stone fleet has been sunk. There is the North Channel, the depth of water in which ranges from ten feet at low tide to fifteen feet at high tide. This is still open to rebel ships, if they could get past our blockading bulwark which watches it. Besides this, there are the Swash and Overall Channels for vessels of lighter draft; but the brace of blockaders detailed to watch the two channels already mentioned will also effectively guard these.

Besides these modes of egress direct to the ocean from Charleston, there is abundant proof that light draft craft have slipped down Maffia's Channel, dodged into Beach Inlet and behind Sullivan's Island, and the other islands along west of the coast, as far as Bull's Island and Bull's Bay, and there have met big ships from Europe, which they have loaded and unloaded at their leisure, and thus carried contraband into Charleston. So far as the contraband in this direction is concerned, all this will be stopped by the watch now kept over Maffia's Channel. Light draft craft have undoubtedly also been playing until very lately, if not now, along the inland water-way leading from Charleston in a southeasterly direction, notwithstanding our force at Port Royal Island.

The stone fleet will thus not absolutely seal up Charleston, nor will it destroy all possibility of future commercial intercourse with the outside world. It will only render the blockade practically impervious.—N. Y. Times.

Rebel Evacuation of Galveston.

A short time since the telegraph announced the evacuation of Galveston. Texas, by the rebels; but so variable are rumors in general, that no one believed this. The rumor, however, turns out to be correct, as will be seen from the following extract from the Houston Telegraph of the 24th inst.:

On the 23rd ult., a council of war was held at Galveston, at which it was determined that it was impossible to defend the city successfully. The largest guns at the fortifications upon the island were 32-pounders, smooth bores, having range not exceeding two miles, while the enemy's guns were of the largest caliber, shooting with accuracy three or four miles. To await an attack was simply to invite the surrender or destruction of our troops and the city, without the power of inflicting injury upon the assailant. It was thought best, therefore, under all the circumstances, to evacuate Galveston, and occupy a position in the rear of the city, so as to repel any advance of the Federal troops after they had landed.

In consequence of this determination, an order was issued for the removal of all the hospital patients from Galveston to Houston, which was accomplished immediately. All the public and private property was being rapidly removed to Houston, when Judge Hill left Galveston.

The proprietor of the News had rented a house in Houston, and announced that his next issue would be printed in that city, and all the other newspaper establishments, it is supposed, have done the same. The guns have been removed from the different fortifications, and the troops have fallen back to the terminus of the railroad bridge on the island, and a still larger force stationed at Victoria Point, on the mainland.

It seems that General Hebert has been notified of a contemplated attack, but is not advised as to the point that may be first assailed.

Ten, Sugar and Coffee Duties.

The war expenses are being felt by the consumers of tea, sugar, and coffee. Congress has just passed, and the President has approved, a bill providing for an increase of the duties on these goods, sugar and coffee. On all teas the duty is to be twenty cents per pound; on coffee, of all kinds, five cents per pound; and on molasses six cents per gallon.

In regard to tea and coffee, people can console themselves and their pockets by substituting coffee for tea, and the heavy duties on sugar and molasses will give fresh impulse to Sorghum culture and manufacture in the West, making us the sooner independent of the South and of foreign importations in the way of sweets.

Why, by the way, imported liquors, such as wine, brandy, and cigars, are not put on the list of increased duties, appears a little singular, the more so as the demand for revenue is so pressing.—Cleveland Herald.

If the people substitute cold water, and use tea or coffee, how will the government get the taxes levied?

Seward's Affection for England.

Secretary Seward was invited to attend the New England dinner at New York, on the 23d of December, the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims upon Plymouth Rock. In declining the invitation, he said:

My duties here allow me little enjoyment of holidays. If it were an Old England dinner instead of a New England feast, I would certainly strain a point to attend. I would like so good an opportunity to attempt to show to our countrymen across the sea that there is no material benefit or moral influence that can accrue to us that will not also increase the prosperity and greatness of Great Britain, and that every disaster that befalls the United States is also a calamity to England, sooner or later, to be borne by Great Britain.

Ohio Troops in Western Virginia.

The whereabouts of Ohio troops in Western Virginia are as follows: The Fourth, Seventh and Eighth Regiments are at Romney. The Thirty-sixth at Summersville. The Twenty-third, Twenty-sixth and Thirtieth at Fayetteville. The Twenty-eighth and Forty-seventh at Gauley Bridge. The Thirty-seventh near Cannelton. The Forty-fourth at Camp Evans. The Eleventh at Point Pleasant. The Twelfth Ohio and First and Second Kentucky at Charleston.

The Thirty-fourth at Barboursville. The Twenty-fifth and Thirty-second near Beverly.

The Paris correspondent of the N. Y. Times, who is regarded as informed, calls attention to an article in the Paris as doubtingly expressing the opinion of the Imperial Government as to the Trent affair. The writer says that France has been led to do so by the quarrel of Great Britain and America, but if the former power recognizes Southern independence and breaks the blockade, the other European States will be compelled to follow her example.

Corruption in the Army—The Report of the Van Wyck Congressional Committee.

The New York Express, in speaking of the report of the Van Wyck Congressional Committee, says:

While we, of New York, were playing the poor, plucked, picked goose, Uncle Sam, in St. Louis, and around which the heavy masses of sand are now settling, were here, in New York city, under our own eyes, by our own doors. The steamer Cataline was bought by the collusion of a Government agent, with a promise to pay \$50,000 for her in the case of loss, for \$18,000, the original cost. Mr. Cummings, of the World newspaper, had \$20,000 on hand, of which he spends \$20,000 without any proper vouchers—\$30,000 of which are said to be in the hands of R. M. Blatchford, vouching for. Cattle were bought for Washington at 8 cents per pound, live weight, but under to Wilson & Allison of New York for 6½¢, the profits on which to the original contractors were \$28,368.17, while Wilson & Allison made a profit, at 6½¢, of \$15,000 to \$20,000. James L. Dayton, of 111 Nassau street, an agent of the Government, buys of John O. Taylor, of New York, six horses, at one buggy, and two sets of harness, for \$970, but only four horses are handed over to the Government for those \$970, and no top buggy, no harness, and the Government is left with here turns out to be a job. The steamer Stars and Stripes, which cost the New Haven Propeller Company \$35,000, is sold to Mr. Geo. D. Morgan, by the President of that Company, Mr. C. Bushnell, for \$35,000, and the Company gives him (B.) a commission for making the sale of \$8,000, while Morgan has 2½¢ per cent on his commission on the purchase—Mr. Geo. D. Morgan's commissions have already been over \$100,000, and are daily increasing, which is very easily watched; and in fact, one of our blockaders, placed off Beach Inlet, near Sullivan's Island, can prevent any rebel ship from creeping into or out of Charleston by Maffia's Channel.

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Local Matters.

(For the Ohio Statesman.)

OF LET ME DIE IN SPRINGTIME.

O, let me die in Springtime!
When nature smiles around;
When birds renew their gayest songs,
And flowers start the ground.

O, let me die in Springtime!
When the laughing brook shall play
With the grass and willow flowers,
That grow upon its way.

O, let me die in Springtime!
For sweet flowers will bloom,
And the birds of the forest
Will sing around my tomb.

O, let me die in Springtime!
For then the trees will wave
Their tall and leafy branches
Above my lonely grave.

O, may it be in Springtime,
When I shall pass away
To a happier home beyond,
To enjoy an endless day.

An eternity of happiness,
O, who can comprehend
The bliss that awaits the tried and just,
When this weary life shall end.

Beyond the shining crystal bars,
There'll be no eternal string;
And there amid the deathless flowers,
Our graves to him we'll sing.

COLUMBUS, O., 1861.

LAUREL AUDITION SALE OF FURNITURE.

The entire furniture belonging to the United States Hotel will be sold at auction, at the Hotel, on Monday, Dec. 30, commencing at ten o'clock A. M., by J. G. Beal, Auctioneer. Among the articles to be sold are one large office table, Bedsteads, Bedding, Chairs, Tables, Stands, Bureaus, Crockery Ware, Carpets, Stoves, etc. Terms, Cash. Y. R. GLAZIER, Auctioneer.

CHURCH OPENING.

The new mission church, called Christ Church, on Cleveland avenue (Eight street), north of Long, will be opened for temporary occupation on to-morrow, Sabbath, December 29th. The services will be at 3 o'clock P. M., and conducted by Dr. Trimble of Town street M. E. Church.

THREE NIGHTS ONLY!

Saturday, Monday & Tuesday Evenings,
December 29, 30 and 31, 1861.

MRS. MATT PEEL'S CAMPBELL MINSTRELS!

ENLARGED COMPANY!
On each evening will be produced the Burlesque Opera, entitled

ITALIAN AIRS.

The best extravaganza ever placed on the stage. Doors open at 6½¢. Performance commences at 7½¢. Grand Gift Matinee for schools and families, on Saturday afternoon, at 2½¢ o'clock. dec28-31

TO THE PUBLIC.

ON AND AFTER THE 1ST DAY OF JANUARY NEXT, we will sell all our goods, with respect to persons or parties. For Cash Only. The cash terms now enforced by Eastern Jobbers, importers, etc., compel this announcement. dec28-31

DRY GOODS.

AT—
S. S. EAMES'S NEW STORE,
No. 119 South High Street,
Ladies', Misses' and Children's FURS,

Can be found a full and choice assortment of

DRESS GOODS,

EMBROIDERIES, SHAWLS,

GLOVES AND HOSIERY, HOODS AND NUBIAS,

SONTAGS & SKATING CAPS, Balmoral & Hoop Skirts,

HATS AND CAPS, UNDER-SHIRTS & DRAWERS,

BOOTS AND SHOES, FLANNELS, BLANKETS, &c. &c.

S. S. EAMES, 119 South High Street.

dec29-31

Oysters! Oysters!!

C. A. WAGNER HAS JUST RECEIVED, AND WILL BE IN DAILY RECEIPT, BY EXPRESS, OF FRESH CAN & KEG OYSTERS,

From Baltimore and Fair Haven. Call at Wagner's Oyster and Fruit Depot, No. 21 East State street. dec28-31

SHOOTING GALLERY.

THE undersigned begs leave to inform his friends that he has fitted up a

SHOOTING GALLERY AT THE VERANDAH, ON STATE STREET.

Good Guns, Air Guns, Pistols and Refreshments. Give me a call. dec28-31

BLACK STRAW BONNETS AND REGENT RIBBONS, in great variety at

RAINFORD, No. 39, High street. dec28-31

THE YOUNG AMERICAN ZOUAVES will have a Festival at the City Hall, on New Year's eve, Dec. 31st, where they would be happy to see the citizens—as they expect to have an entertainment surpassed by no other. The proceeds will be appropriated for purchasing a part of the uniform for the Company. Tickets to admit to the Book and Music stores. Tickets admitting one gentleman and two ladies, fifty cents; single, twenty-five cents.

A negro man died in Baltimore last week, aged one hundred and ten years. He was known as "Old Fiddler Jack."

The U. S. District Court at Cincinnati adjourned on Thursday to January 6, 1862.

The Homoeopaths, thinking the Allopathists have too much influence in the Washington Hospitals, have induced Senator Grimes ("the good old man," probably) to introduce a bill, to put a Homoeopath at the head of at least one hospital. If Congress will only quarrel upon Homoeopathy and Allopathy, in lieu of Negro Philanthropy—all will be better if not well.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

DR. ROBT. THOMPSON, Surgeon & Physician.

TREATS ALL DISEASES OF THE EYE. Office High Street, North of Broad (No. 16.)

DR. J. W. THOMPSON. OFFICE ON HIGH STREET, OVER HAYDEN'S IRON STORE, a few doors North of Broad.

Legal Notice. Robert K. Needles, Plaintiff, vs. Wm. Graham, J. Sarah Clark, Defendant.

ON the 5th day of December, A. D. 1861, said Justice issued an order of attachment in the above action for the sum of \$27.10-1/2.

ROBERT K. NEEDLES, Plaintiff, vs. Wm. Graham, J. Sarah Clark, Defendant.

ARMORY HALL. Three Nights Only! Saturday, Monday & Tuesday Evenings, December 29, 30 and 31, 1861.

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GREAT SALE FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS.

—AT—

S. S. EAMES'S

NEW CLOAK HOUSE,

No. 119 South High Street.

GOOD UNION

Beaver-Cloth Cloaks, From \$6.50 to \$8.50.

Good Broad-Cloth Cloaks, From \$9.00 to \$15.00.

Children's Cloth Cloaks, From \$2.00 to \$6.00.

FURS. A WELL SELECTED STOCK, Ranging from \$5.00 to \$60.00 a set.

SUPPLIES FOR THE OHIO PENITENTIARY.

Office Ohio Penitentiary, Columbus, Dec. 29, 1861.

SEALED Proposals will be received at this office until FRIDAY, January 10th, 1862, 9 o'clock P. M., for furnishing the institution with